REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 has been amended to avoid unnecessary reciting the supporting stand, and to clarify the recitation of the detector supporting member, as well as to recite a detector supporting member structure which is mountable to and dismountable from the radiographing main body, and which comprises a second detector supporting rack to support a detector when the breast is radiographed to obtain a phase contrast image.

In addition, claim 2 has been amended to recite a supporting stand along the lines of the supporting stand previously recited in claim 1.

Still further, the claims have been amended to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems so as to put them in better form for issuance in a U.S. patent. The informality pointed out by the Examiner at the top of page 2 of the Office Action has been corrected.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by US 2004/151277 ("Ohara"), US 2004/0131145 ("Ohara"), US 2004/0109530 ("Amitani et al"), USP 7,103,140 ("Amitani et al"), and USP 7,027,556 ("Ohara").

USP 7,103,140 is the U.S. patent corresponding to US 2004/0109530. USP 7,027,556 is the U.S. patent corresponding to US 2004/151277.

Each of the cited references has a U.S. filing date which is after the February 18, 2003, filing date of JP 2003-039808, the priority of which is claimed by the present application.

More specifically, the U.S. filing date of USP 7,103,140 (corresponding to US 2004/0109530) is November 20, 2003. The U.S. filing date of USP 7,027,556 (corresponding to US 2004/151277) is December 24, 2003. And the U.S. filing date of US 2004/0131145 is December 18, 2003.

Submitted herewith is an accurate English translation of JP 2003-039808, to demonstrate that the claims are fully supported by the disclosure of JP 2003-039808 and therefore are entitled to the claimed priority date of February 18, 2003.

Thus, it is respectfully pointed out that none of USP 7,103,140 (corresponding to US 2004/0109530), USP 7,027,556 (corresponding to US 2004/151277) and US 2004/0131145 were filed in the United States before the invention claimed in the present

application. Therefore, none of USP 7,103,140 (corresponding to US 2004/0109530), USP 7,027,556 (corresponding to US 2004/151277) and US 2004/0131145 qualify as a reference against the present invention under 35 USC 102(e). Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejections in view of USP 7,103,140 (corresponding to US 2004/0109530), USP 7,027,556 (corresponding to US 2004/151277) and US 2004/0131145 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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